APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/993,754	11/14/2001	Jill Ann Hansen	RPS9 2001 0093	8263

			EXAMINER
25299	7590	06/29/2004	MISTRY, O NEAL RAJAN

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 November 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-24* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-24* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *14 November 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)   5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .   6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This application has been examined.

2.   Claims 1-24 are presented for examination.

Drawings

The Examiner contends that the drawings submitted on November 14, 2001 are

acceptable for the examination proceedings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3.   Claim 1-24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barber et al

(U.S. Patent Number 5,777,615), hereafter referred to as Barber.

4.   In regards to claim 1, Barber states a method for retaining points of interest when

switching between at least two windows running on a multiwindow computer system,

the method comprising step:

    allowing a user to register at least one specific point of interest in each of

the windows, wherein one of the windows is active and the other windows are

inactive (Figure 6 & col. 2 line 64 – col. 3 line 3);

    displaying a persistent mouse pointer on each of the registered points of

interest in the inactive windows (Figure 6 & col. 2 line 64- col.3 line 3); and

in response to the user making one of the inactive windows active,

displaying an active mouse pointer at the location of the persistent mouse pointer

in that window (col. 5 line 40-44).

5.   In regards to claim 2, Barber discloses the step of allowing the user to register

multiple points of interest within at least one of the windows (col. 3 lines 33-42 & Figure

7).

6.   In regards to claim 3, Barber states the step of providing a multiwindow device

driver for controlling a mouse and for displaying the persistent mouse pointers (col. 4

line 64- 67).

7.   In regards to claim 4, Barber discloses the step of implementing the mouse as a

multiwindow mouse (col. 5 lines 40- 48 & col. 4 lines 25 - 30).

In regards to claim 5, Barber states wherein step (a) further includes the step of:

allowing the user to position the active mouse pointer at a desired location

in the active window (Figure 9 & col. 2 line 64- col. 3 line 3);

in response to tie user pressing a predefined button on a mouse,

displaying a dialog box that displays a list of commands for user selection, which

include a set command and a delete command (Figure 9 col. 11 lines 20-37); and

in response to the user selecting the set command, setting the point of

interest by storing the x and y coordinates of the point of interest, an ID of the

active window, and an ID of a next window (Figure 5 & col. 6 lines 16-26).

8.   In regards to claim 6, Barber discloses the step of providing the multiwindow

mouse with a joystick that allows the user to switch between the windows and to move

between the registered points of interest within the windows (col. 4 lines 45- 49).

9.   In regards to claim 7, Barber states he step of: providing the multiwindow mouse

with a registration button for registering the points of interest and a toggle button for

moving between the registered points of interest (Figure 9 & col. 11 lines 51-60).

10.   In regards to claim 8, Barber discloses the step of: implementing the multiwindow

mouse as twin-mouse configuration (col. 14 lines 8-14).

11.   In regards to claim 9, Barber states the step of coupling two mice together and

dedicating each mouse to a respective window or a set of windows (col.14 lines 8-14).

12.   In regards to claim 10, Barber discloses a multiwindow computer system capable

of displaying multiple windows of open applications on a display screen, wherein one of

the windows is active and the other windows are inactive, comprising:

a mouse for controlling an active mouse pointer on the display screen (col. 4 line

53 – col. 5 line 1); and

a multiwindow device driver for controlling the mouse, the multiwindow device

driver including means for allowing a user to register a point of interest in each of the

multiple windows (col. 7 line 26 –39),

means for displaying a persistent mouse pointer on each of the registered points

of interest (col. 5 lines 40-49 & col. 8 lines 42-48), and

means responsive to the user making one of the inactive windows active for

displaying an active mouse pointer at the location of the persistent mouse pointer in that

window (col. 3 lines 19-32).

13.   In regards to claim 11, Barber states the user may register multiple points of

interest within at least one of the windows (Figure 7 & col. 8 lines 11-17).

14.   In regards to claim 12, Barber discloses the mouse comprises a multiwindow

mouse (col. 5 lines 40-48 & col. 4 lines 25-30).

15.   In regards to claim 13, Barber states the multiwindow mouse includes a joystick

that allows the user to switch between the windows and to move between the registered

points of interest within the windows (col. 4 lines 45- 49).

16.   In regards to claim 14, Barber discloses the multiwindow mouse includes a

registration button for registering the points of interest and a toggle button for moving

between the registered points of interest (Figure 9 & col. 11 lines 51 –60).

17.   In regards to claim 15, Barber states herein the multiwindow mouse comprises a

twin-mouse configuration that includes two mice where each mouse is dedicated to a

respective window or a set of windows (col. 14 lines 8-14).

18.   In regards to claim 16, Barber discloses a method for retaining points of interest

when switching between application windows running on a multiwindow computer

system, the system comprising step:

       allowing a user to register a point of interest within a first window (Figure 6 col. 2

line 64- col. 3 line 3);

       displaying a first persistent mouse pointer on the registered point of interest

within the first window (col. 11 line 7 –18 & Figure 6);

       allowing the user to register a second point of interest within a second open

window (col. 3 line 18 –32 & Figure 6); and

       displaying a second persistent mouse pointer on the registered point of interest

within the second window, such that the first and second persistent mouse pointers are

displayed regardless of which window is active (col. 11 line 7 –18 & Figure 6).

19.   In regards to claim 17, Barber states the step of in response to the user switching

from the first window to the second) window, displaying an active cursor in a location of

the second persistent mouse pointer (col. 11 line 7-18).

20.   In regards to claim 18, Barber discloses the step of: in response to the user

switching from the second window to the first: window, displaying the active cursor in a

location of the first persistent mouse pointer (col. 11 line 7-18).

21.   In regards to claim 19, Barber states the step of enabling the user to set and

delete points of interest using hotkey sequences on a keyboard (Figure 9 & col. 9 lines

42- 63).

22.   In regards to claim 20, Barber discloses the steps of allowing the user to register

a display arrangement of application windows, as well as points of interest within the

registered applications, such that when the computer is booted, the applications are

opened in the registered 'window arrangement with locations of the registered points of

interest indicated by the persistent mouse pointers (col. 7 lines 25- 39).

23.   In regards to claim 21, Barber states a computer-readable medium containing

program instructions for retaining points of interest when switching between at least two

windows running on a multiwindow computer system, the instructions for:

        allowing a user to register at least one specific point of interest in each of

the windows, wherein one of the windows is active and the other windows are inactive

(col. 3 lines 18-32);

        displaying a persistent mouse pointer on each of the registered points of

interest in the inactive windows (Figure 6 & col. 8 lines 5-21); and

in response to the user making one of the inactive windows active,

displaying an active mouse pointer at the location of the persistent mouse pointer in that

window (col. 11 lines 51-61).

24.   In regards to claim 22, Barber discloses the instruction of: allowing the user to

register multiple points of interest within at least one of the windows (col. 3 lines 33-42 &

Figure 7).

25.   In regards to claim 23, Barber states the program instructions comprise a

multiwindow device driver for controlling a mouse and for displaying the persistent

mouse pointers (col. 7 lines 27 –39).

26.   In regards to claim 24, Barber discloses instruction (a) further includes the

instruction of:

allowing the user to position the active mouse pointer at a desired location in the

active window (col. 2 line 64- col. 3 line 3);

in response to the user pressing a predefined button on a mouse, displaying a

dialog box that displays a list of commands for user selection, which include a set

command and a delete command (col. 11 line 20-37); and

in response to the user selecting the set command, setting the of interest by

storing the x and y coordinates of the point of interest, an ID of the active window, and

an ID of a next window (Figure 5 & col. 6 lines 16-26).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to O'Neal R Mistry whose telephone number is (703) 305-2738. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W Cabeca can be reached on (703)308-3116. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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